

REMARKS

Applicants note that claims 1-17 are pending in the above-referenced application. As will be discussed in further detail below, claim 18 has been cancelled in order to advance prosecution. Applicants do reserve the right to file subsequent continuation and/or divisional applications on the subject matter encompassed by claim 18.

Claims 1-12 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending application serial no. 09/337809. Claim 15 is provisionally rejected over claim 15 of the copending application. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution, Applicants herewith submit a Terminal Disclaimer.

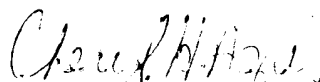
Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicant regards as the invention. In response and in order to advance prosecution, claim 18 has been cancelled.

Therefore, it is believed that the present claims are in condition for allowance, and such a determination is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (914) 712-0093 if there are any remaining issues that need to be discussed

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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